

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Socorro Water System Has Levels of Arsenic Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received show that our system exceeds the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L. The average level of arsenic in samples taken during 3rd quarter 2011 at the Springs Treatment Unit was 0.036 mg/L. The average level of arsenic in samples taken during 3rd quarter 2011 at the South Industrial Park Well was 0.023 mg/L. The table below shows the dates, locations and values detected:

Sample Location	Sample Date	Quarter & Year	Results mg/L	RAA mg/L
Springs Treatment Unit	8/16/2011	3 rd quarter 2011	0.039	0.036
South Industrial Park Well	8/16/2011	3 rd Quarter 2011	0.023	0.023

What should you do?

- ☐ There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- ☐ If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

Arsenic contamination is rarely due to human activity. Two Arsenic treatment facilities are currently under construction. The Arsenic Treatment Project using a coagulation/granular filtration process has been approved by NMED and USDA, the principal funding source. The project is expected to be complete no later than September 22, 2012.

For more information, please contact: Lloyd Martinez at (575) 650-0545 or lmartinez@socorronm.gov.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially this who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people with apartments, nursing homes, school, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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